

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending. A non-final Office Action mailed November 4, 2002 rejected Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-26 and 28-30 under 35 USC § 102, and rejected Claims 7, 17, and 27 under 35 USC § 103. By way of this amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-30 and added new Claims 31-44. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicant hereby respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the application.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC § 102

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-26, and 28-30 as being anticipated by Rosenberg et al. The Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-26, and 28-30, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 7, 17, and 27 as being unpatentable over Rosenberg et al. The Applicant has cancelled Claims 7, 17, and 27, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

NEW CLAIMS

Applicant has added new Claims 31-44. Independent Claims 31 and 39 provide a system and method where a parking attendant checks with a server if vehicles within a threshold distance from the attendant have registered for parking. Thus, this system is not limited to use by a specific parking location like Rosenberg et al. and therefore can be used as a municipal parking validation system. The Applicant submits that Claims 31-44 are allowable over the cited reference.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims of the pending application are now in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections, allowance, and early passage through issuance. If the examiner has




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any questions, the examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's agent listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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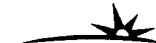
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-30.

Please add the following new claims:

31. A method for verifying vehicle parking comprising:
 - wirelessly transmitting from a computer-based hand-held parking attendant device location information of the parking attendant device to a server;
 - determining at the server if any vehicles have registered for parking within a predefined distance from the parking attendant device based on a comparison of the parking attendant location information and location information associated with previously registered vehicles;
 - sending the results of the determination to the parking attendant device; and
 - outputting at least a portion of the sent results at the parking attendant device, thereby allowing verification of vehicle parking.
32. The method of Claim 31, further comprising:
 - wirelessly transmitting vehicle information and vehicle location information from a vehicle to the server; and
 - registering vehicles for parking based on the transmitted vehicle information and vehicle location information.
33. The method of Claim 32, wherein registering includes automatically completing a payment transaction.
34. The method of Claim 32, wherein transmitting occurs after a first vehicle trigger event.
35. The method of Claim 34, wherein the first vehicle trigger event comprises at least one of shutting off the engine, removing the vehicle key from the ignition switch, opening or closing the vehicle door, or locking the vehicle.
36. The method of Claim 34, wherein the server begins a clock after the determined vehicle location is received.
37. The method of Claim 36, further comprising:
 - generating a complete transaction signal at the vehicle based on a second trigger event; and



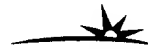
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sending the generated complete transaction signal to the server, wherein completing the payment transaction comprises:

stopping the clock after the server receives the complete transaction signal from the vehicle; and

determining an amount of payment required based on an elapsed time of the clock.

38. The method of Claim 37, wherein the second vehicle trigger event comprises at least one of unlocking the door, inserting the key in the ignition switch, opening or closing the vehicle door, starting the vehicle, or moving the vehicle a threshold distance from the vehicle's previous location.

39. A computer-based vehicle parking system comprising:

a server comprising:

a communication component configured to receive the determined vehicle location information from a vehicle;

a processor configured to automatically complete a payment transaction; and

HR memory for storing transaction completion and vehicle location information; and

a computer-based, portable parking attendant device comprising:

a first component for determining attendant device location information; and

a second component for sending the determined device location information to the server, HR wherein the processor of the server is further configured to compare stored vehicle location information to receive device location information, and determining if a vehicle is within a predefined distance from the parking attendant device based on the comparison, and HR wherein the communication component of the server sends the results of the determination to the parking attendant device, and the parking attendant device presents the results of the determination.

40. The system of Claim 39, wherein the communication component of the vehicle is configured to send the determined vehicle location after a first vehicle trigger event occurs.

41. The system of Claim 40, wherein the first vehicle trigger event comprises at least one of shutting off the engine, removing the vehicle key from the ignition switch, opening or closing the vehicle door, or locking the vehicle.



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42. The system of Claim 40, wherein the server begins a clock after the determined vehicle location is received.

43. The system of Claim 42, wherein the vehicle further comprises a component configured to generate complete transaction signal based on a second trigger event, wherein the communication component of the vehicle is further configured to send the generated complete transaction signal to the server, wherein the transaction completing component is further configured to stop the clock after the server receives the complete transaction signal from the vehicle, and to determine an amount of payment required based on elapsed time of the clock.

44. The system of Claim 43, wherein the second vehicle trigger event comprises at least one of unlocking the door, inserting the key in the ignition switch, opening or closing the vehicle door, starting the vehicle, or moving the vehicle a threshold distance from the vehicle's previous location.




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